

Message Text

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62

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 LAB-04

TRSE-00 STR-04 /049 W

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R 140131Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5680

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 11205

DEPT ALSO FOR IO

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TH, APER, AORG

SUBJECT: CHARLES WELBERT

REF: (A) BANGKOK 9163

(B) BANGKOK 9800

(C) STATE 134497

1. RED PREPARED ISSUE ORDERS AS REQUESTED REFTEL (C) HOWEVER THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND RED BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES FULL CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO FOLLOWING:

2. AS STATED IN REFTEL (B) IMPLEMENTATION SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL SERVICES PROJECT, PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME, IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE US GOVERNMENT. THE UNIDO PROJECT IS TO EVALUATE BENEFITS OF PAST FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN THAILAND AND TO SUGGEST POLICIES AND MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED BY RTG FOR THE FUTURE. WELBERT ON DETAIL TO UNIDO WOULD PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN FORMULATION OF POLICIES--UNDER GUIDANCE FROM THIS EMBASSY. THE PROJECT (AS STATED BY RTG) IS TO HELP COUNTERACT CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN PARLIAMENT WHO MAY FEEL THAT FOREIGN INVESTMENT NOT BENEFICIAL. IT IS
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ALSO INTENDED, AT SAME TIME, TO RESHAPE AND IMPROVE

FOREIGN INVESTMENT POLICIES AND CLIMATE. BOTH PERFECTLY
IN LINE WITH OUR OWN LONG TERM OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND.

3. RTG ALREADY APPROVED WELBERT FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.
ALSO STATEMENT WAS MADE CONFIDENTIALLY THAT THIS
PROJECT, WHICH IS OF DELICATE NATURE, WAS KEPT IN ABEYANCE
FOR NUMBER OF MONTHS AND WAS NEVER SUBMITTED FOR UNIDO'S
PUBLICATION IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF GETTING A
"THIRD WORLD" EXPERT TO WORK ON IT. THE PROJECT IS A WAY
WAS WAITING FOR A RIGHT CANDIDATE. WHEN WELBERT'S NAME
WAS SUGGESTED, BOTH UNIDO AND RTG CAME TO CONCLUSION THAT
WELBERT'S BACKGROUND, AS WELL AS HIS PAST EXPERIENCE IN
THAILAND, POINT TO HIM AS BEST CANDIDATE FOR THIS
ASSIGNMENT.

4. AS NO ANSWER WAS RECEIVED TO REFTEL (A) EMBASSY ASSUMED
THAT AID WILL GLADLY APPROVE REIMBURSABLE DETAIL AND PER-
MIT UNIDO AND RTG TO PROCEED WITH PROCESSING PROJECT.
EMBASSY AFTER HAVING SENT REF (B) ACTUALLY STARTED WELBERT
ON PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE PROJECT.

5. UNIDO WHEN INFORMED OF AID'S ATTITUDE EXPRESSED
REFTEL (C), VOICED STRONGLY OPINION THAT RTG WILL CONSIDER
IT AN AFFRONT TO HAVE AN APPROVED CANDIDATE WITHDRAWN
AT THIS LATE STAGE AND MORE SO IN VIEW OF EVENTUALITY
TO HAVE TO SUSPEND PROJECT INDEFINITELY RATHER THAN
ACCEPT IF OFFERED AN UNDESIRABLE SUBSTITUTE CANDIDATE,
FOR REASONS EXPLAINED PARA 3, ABOVE.

6. EMBASSY SHARES UNIDO'S CONCERN AND FEELS THAT ALL
EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF
A PROJECT WHICH IS IN THE INTEREST OF USG AND WHICH IS
ALMOST READY TO BE STARTED.

7. OUR INTERPRETATION OF M.O. 419.4 IS THAT NATURE AND
DURATION OF THIS PROJECT PLACES IT IN CATEGORY OF DETAIL
(VI-A) AND NOT TRANSFER (VI-B). FAIL TO UNDERSTAND
WHY REIMBURSABLE DETAIL PRESENTS PROBLEMS.

8. FYI ACCORDING TO UNIDO A TRANSFER AT LATER DATE IS
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A DEFINITE POSSIBILITY. HOWEVER, NO SUITABLE LONG TERM
PROJECT TO JUSTIFY A TRANSFER (UNDER VI-B) IS AVAILABLE
AT THIS POINT, THOUGH IT MAY BE DEVELOPED BEFORE THE END
OF THE YEAR. ALSO, AS A TRANSFER TAKES MANY MONTHS TO
BE PROCESSED, IT WOULD HARDLY BE PRACTICAL FOR THIS 6-7
MONTH PROJECT WHICH RTG WISHES TO START WITHOUT DELAY.

9. IF AID/PERSONNEL REQUIRES WELBERT'S PRESENCE IN

WASHINGTON, EMBASSY SUGGESTS A 14 DAY TDY FROM BANGKOK IN
LIEU OF TRANSFER TDY AS PER REF (C).
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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